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# **CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER**

**24-HOUR REPORT** 

28 APRIL 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

## (U) Orange - Prosecutors Indict Mexican Mafia Leadership

(U) Federal prosecutors announced a sweeping racketeering case yesterday aimed at dismantling the leadership of the Mexican Mafia that controlled street gangs in parts of Southern California. The indictment unsealed in US District Court against three members of the group and 28 associates includes allegations of two murders, six attempted killings, extortion and drug trafficking in Orange County. Prosecutors said the case would not eradicate the organization, which mainly operates from behind bars to call shots on crimes in prison and on the streets. But the prosecution would disrupt the leadership that arose when the longtime kingpin who for decades-controlled gang activity in Orange County was convicted of racketeering in 2016.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, Associated Press

#### (U) San Diego – CHP Officer Shot, Wounded on Interstate 8; Suspect Arrested

(U) A California Highway Patrol (CHP) officer was shot in his right thigh during a struggle Wednesday evening while investigating a crash on Interstate 8 at Interstate 805 in Mission Valley, authorities said. The wounded officer was in serious but stable condition Wednesday night at Scripps Mercy Hospital in Hillcrest, according to the CHP. The officer was investigating a crash about 6:15 p.m. near the ramp from east I-8 to north I-805 when he "became involved in a struggle with a pedestrian, resulting in a single gunshot. Good Samaritans helped "subdue" the suspect until other officers arrived and arrested a 25-year-old San Diego man, whose name was not released.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, San Diego Union-Tribune

## (U) NATIONAL

## (U) Alabama - Woman Sentenced for Financing Al-Qa'ida

(U) Birmingham – A former Alabama resident was sentenced to more than seven years in federal prison for concealing the transmission of funds to be provided in support of al-Qa'ida. Chief US District Court Judge L. Scott Coogler sentenced Alaa Mohd Abusaad, 26, to 90-months in prison followed by 10-years of supervised release for concealment of terrorism financing. Abusaad pleaded guilty to the charge in September 2019. According to the plea agreement, between February and April 2018, Abusaad instructed an FBI undercover employee about how to send money to mujahedeen fighters. Abusaad told the undercover employee that money "is always needed. You can't have a war without weapons. You can't prepare a soldier without equipment."

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, AL.com

## (U) District of Columbia - Proud Boys Member Pleads Guilty to 6 January Capitol Riot Charges

(U) Washington – A member of the far-right Proud Boys group yesterday pleaded guilty to obstructing police officers when he joined the 6 January 2021, attack on the US Capitol by President Donald Trump's supporters in their attempt to overturn his election defeat. The plea agreement filed in federal court in Washington calls for Louis Enrique Colon of Missouri to admit to a single felony charge and cooperate

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with prosecutors. Colon admitted to crossing police barricades during the riot before climbing a wall to gain access to a higher level of the Capitol.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, Reuters

## (U) Minnesota – Agents Seize Record Amount of Fentanyl in Bust

(U) Mankato – Drug task force agents executed search warrants on four mobile homes in University Mobile Home Park after a three-week investigation into a group of people distributing counterfeit 30-miligram oxycodone pills that contain fentanyl, commonly referred to as Mbox 30 pills. Agents from the Minnesota River Valley Drug Task Force seized a total of 450 Mbox 30 pills, 8-grams of cocaine, two loaded handguns and several-thousand dollars in cash. The size of the seizure was the largest number of fentanyl pills from any prior year.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, The Free Press

#### (U) Mississippi – Joint Operation Nets 700 Arrests

(U) Oxford – A month long joint federal, state and local law enforcement initiative organized in response to an increase in violent crime in the area has resulted in the arrests of more than 700 individuals in North Mississippi on a variety of charges including homicide, aggravated assault, aggravated domestic assault, child abuse, child sexual assault, drug distribution, unlawful gun crime, DUI, and failure to register as a sex offender. "Operation MPACT," a US Marshals led initiative, brought together the taskforce to target known offenders, deter crime, and improve community and safety relations. SOURCE: 27 April 2022, US DOJ

## (U) Washington – Microsoft Discloses Onslaught of Russian Cyberattacks on Ukraine

(U) Redmond – Russian government hackers carried out multiple cyber operations against Ukraine that appeared to support Moscow's military attacks and online propaganda campaigns, Microsoft said in a report yesterday. The reported intrusions, some of which have not been previously disclosed, suggest that hacking has played a bigger role in the conflict than what has been publicly known. The digital onslaught, which Microsoft said began one-year prior to Russia's 24 February invasion, may have laid the groundwork for different military missions in the war-torn territory, researchers found. Microsoft said Russia's hacking and military operations worked in "tandem against a shared target set." The tech company said it could not determine whether this correlation was driven by coordinated decision-making or simply because of shared goals.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, Reuters

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Mexico - La Linea Cartel Lieutenant Arrested

(U) Cancun – Mexican officials are reporting the capture of a La Linea cartel lieutenant believed to be behind the Good Friday massacre of six people on a highway near the US border. Juan Manuel G.R., a.k.a. "El Johnny," was arrested at the Cancun International Airport, the Chihuahua Attorney General reported Tuesday. State police described "El Johnny" as a "criminal leader and generator of violence" in Northwest Chihuahua. He was arrested on a warrant for sexual assault of a minor but is being investigated in connection with the 15 April attack on Mexico Highway 2 that left two state police officers, a Mexican immigration agent, and three civilians shot to death inside vehicles the attackers later burned. The attack took place near the town of Janos, where roads and dirt trails lead to the Southeast Arizona and Southern New Mexico border.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, Border Report

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## (U) Poland - Authorities Arrest Russian, Belarusian for Alleged Spying

(U) Warsaw – A Russian man and a Belarusian man have been arrested in Poland on allegations of spying for Russia's special services, security authorities in Poland said yesterday. Stanislaw Zaryn, a spokesman for Poland's state security bodies, said that material gathered by Poland's military intelligence formed the evidence for the arrests. Zaryn said the men were gathering sensitive military information, including about Polish troops' presence near Poland's border with Belarus. Last month a Spanish citizen was arrested in Poland on allegations of spying for Russia. The arrests come as Poland's is helping its neighbor, Ukraine, resist an invasion by Russia, which is an ally of Belarus.

SOURCE: 27 April 2022, Associated Press

#### (U) Syria – Suspected ISIS Gunmen Kill Seven at Ramadan Meal

(U) Damascus – Suspected Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) gunmen attacked a Ramadan gathering hosted by a former official of a US-backed group in eastern Syria, killing seven and wounding four, opposition activists said today. The Wednesday night attack in the Abu Khashab area in Deir el-Zour province targeted the home of a former spokesman with the US-backed, Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Three years after ISIS lost the last sliver of territory it controlled, its sleeper cells have been increasing attacks in recent months, mainly targeting the SDF but also forces from the Syrian government.

SOURCE: 28 April 2022, Associated Press

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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